PEACE NEWS

The International Pacifist Weekly

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CYPRUS DETENTION CAMPS

Two warders tell their story

REPORT GOES TO UN

Peace News Reporter

AT a Press conference held in a House of Commons Committee room on Tuesday, two prison warders from Cyprus told why they had resigned their posts at the Korkinotrimithia Detention Camp where they were employed from September 18, 1956 until January 7, 1957.

They were Ex-Sergeant William Whitcombe, honourably discharged with a pension after 25 years service in the RAF and Ex-Sergeant David Toon with 16 years service in the Army.

In all their long years in the forces, they declared, they had not seen anything like the conditions in which 300 Cypriots were being detained without trial at "K" Camp.

"Quite a number of them were innocent of any action and were taken from their beds, in some cases in the early hours of the morning, interrogated and in many cases badly beaten," declared Mr. Whitcombe, in a written statement.

At bayonet point

On September 23 the detainees were turned out of their huts at bayonet point by British soldiers "and made to stand in the boiling sun with their hands on their heads, close to the barbed wire."

On the following day the two sergeants saw detainees punched and beaten with rifle butts.

"The Director of Detention Camps made no attempt to call the armed soldiers away from the defenceless detainees, some of whom were screaming with pain," the two declared. They added that they understood that the Director, like many others on the camp staff had been employed in prisons and camps in Kenya. "This was a good qualification."

The grim story told by the two sergeants was made available to MPs in time for the debate on Cyprus and later to delegates at the United Nations where Cyprus was also being debated.

Two hours to get out

They told of men being detained indefinitely without trial and without adequate provision of clothing or proper facilities for receiving visitors, of poor food, concrete-base beds without mattresses, even for detainees who were seriously ill, of lack of heating, absence of a resident doctor and inadequate medical treatment, of two day intervals between supplies of water, and of sewage seeping through the ground.

On January 1 the two sergeants tendered their resignations. On January 7 they were given letters terminating their agreements with the Cyprus Government and orders to pack and leave the camp within two hours.

"No implication at any time was made that we had not been carrying out our duties efficiently."

"I'm sure that our Government has no idea of what is happening out there," Ex-sergeant Toon told the Press conference which had been called by the Movement for Colonial Freedom.

Searched

Both agreed that the majority of the detainees were "decent people . . . teachers, scholars, lawyers, very clever men."

On leaving Cyprus the two men were stopped and searched as they were about to board the plane. All personal documents were taken from them and not returned until January 26 in England.

"We have never been ashamed to be British citizens before, but we were that day."

The Press conference co-incided with the publication in the Manchester Guardian of further allegations by the Cyprus Bar Association of ill treatment of detainees.

High level meetings with Russia urged

Lord Chorley, Professor Dame Kathleen Lonsdale and Earl (Bertrand) Russell were signatories to the following letter which appeared in The Times (London) on February 18. Kathleen Lonsdale was a member of the Quaker Mission to Moscow in 1952.

WE would urge the Prime Minister to reconsider his decision not to carry on with Sir Anthony Eden's project of a return visit to Moscow this May. We appreciate that the diplomatic climate is considerably colder now than it was when this proposal was first put forward, but in our view this makes it all the more important that the leading figures in both countries should meet each other round a table, perhaps a festive table of the kind which Russians so well know how to prepare, instead of declaiming against one another from platform and front bench.

At this time Britain needs peaceful relations and trade with other countries more than ever before, and it is unfortunate that the events of the autumn—both in Egypt and Hungary—should have halted the growing improvement in our relations with the USSR. The Soviet Government, however, continues to show its willingness to further the development of friendly exchanges between our countries, both culturally and commercially.

These favourable aspects of the situation deserve exploitation, but this will be difficult to secure without meetings, at the highest level, where the difficulties can be discussed, and solutions, we hope, may be found. This can pave the way for increasing the development of British-Soviet trade, which has already shown a gratifying growth during recent months, and it could also lead to a measure of disarmament such as is particularly needed by this country at the present time, and which could be both realistic and appreciable.

Misguided but set free

ALFRED HAY, 19-year-old Dundee (Scotland) conscientious objector, was set free by the Sheriff after he had appeared before the court for refusing to submit to medical examination under the National Service Act.

Hay had already served a sentence of thirty days imprisonment.

"I am quite sure we can't go on just sending misguided boys to prison," Sheriff Christie said.

The 19-year-old farm hand who was "misguided" enough to object to being trained to kill was given an absolute discharge.

From Japan, Holland, Britain come calls to

STOP THE H-TESTS

"When more is known . . ." warning from U.S. scientist

DEMANDS for the suspension of the British and all other H-bomb tests are growing all over the world.

In Japan the nation is united both on the Left and the Right in demanding that the British tests, scheduled to begin in the Pacific next month, should be stopped.

Appeal from Dutch Church

In Holland the Dutch Government has been called upon by the Netherlands Reformed Church to press UN for an end to nuclear weapon experiments.

In Britain, the Quaker journal, The Friend, has published an appeal by a London Quaker, Ronald Darvell, "for a corporate voice from Friends speaking out against this universal social evil," while from individuals there are coming appeals for direct action by placing ships or persons in the area of the Pacific which Britain will cordon off for the tests.

Defy "closed area"

In Reynolds News on Sunday Tom Driberg's column referred to "a startling and exciting suggestion" made by Harvey R. Coll, of 16 Addison Crescent, London, who wrote:

". . . One method of protest would be for several boatloads of people to refuse to recognise the validity of the closing of waters in the area to shipping and to dare the British authorities to carry out the test with them in the neighbourhood. How about a call for volunteers from all nations?"

The Japanese Embassy in London declined to see a deputation of London pacifists about the tests while negotiations with the British Government were proceeding. The pacifists wished to ask Japanese help in flying war resisters from different parts of the Commonwealth into the Pacific area where they could join Japanese fishing craft and sail into the cordoned off-area.

London demonstration

The National Council for the Abolition of Nuclear Tests, set up in London last week, is planning a demonstration in London on March 18 when the UN Disarmament Conference meets in London; further details will be announced in Peace News.

The Coulsdon and Purley (Surrey) Peace Council have asked the British Prime Minister "to make a public gesture for peace" by making "a public announcement that Britain has decided not to proceed with the projected tests."

The Liberal Party has also urged the Government to cancel the test.

Labour's yes to tests

The Labour Party view, expressed by Mr Strachey in the House of Commons in the Defence debate last week is that the British tests should take place in the absence of universal agreement to end them.

Replying to a question by Emrys Hughes who asked if Mr. Strachey was aware that at the last General Election the Labour Party definitely declared against H-bomb tests, Mr. Strachey said that he supposed Mr. Emrys Hughes would say that "we ought to do it by example."

"But let us be realistic about this," Mr. Strachey continued.

"If we go to the Russian and American Governments and simply say, 'We are stopping our H-bomb tests,' I think the response will simply be, 'Thank you very much, good afternoon.'

"But if we go to them and say, 'All of us three Powers are conducting these perhaps fatal tests. Cannot we all call a halt to them?' Surely there is at any rate a chance of real achievement . . . of arresting this march in the direction of ultimate race suicide."

It is expected that a number of Labour MPs will press the British Government to state that it is willing to suspend the tests if Russia and

ON BACK PAGE

COLOUR BAR ON BRITISH AIR LINE

"I felt ashamed of my skin"

—CATHOLIC PRIEST

THE following letter appeared in the Central African Post last month. The writer is a Catholic priest.

Sir.—Kariba to Lusaka by Central African Airways is not an unpleasant trip—at least if you belong to the "civilised" section of society.

In the spacious Central African Airways aircraft of the January 16 trip to Lusaka there were only 10 passengers, of which three were "colourful" and seven were "colourless".

The Whites, securely grouped together in the comfortable back seats of the plane, were graciously offered tea, biscuits, and the usual sweets at the time of starting and landing.

The Blacks, well dressed, courteous, and speaking English quite well, were duly segregated in the front seats and were offered neither tea nor biscuits, nor sweets.

I felt ashamed of my skin and of our "civilised" standards.

Yours, etc.,

E. DE MEULDER.

P.O. Box 125, Lusaka.

* * *

IN LONDON, Peace News asked BOAC whether there would be any difficulty if a white person wished to travel with an African. Central African Airways are an associate company of British Overseas Airways Corporation.

A BOAC spokesman, after conferring with London CAA office said: "There is no difficulty at all. They like to have white people who will travel with Africans. Just state that you wish to sit with Mr. So-and-So and this will be arranged."

When Peace News drew the attention of Central African Airways' London Sales Manager, Mr. Rose, to Father Meulder's letter to the Central African Post, Mr. Rose said:

"There is no discrimination. I would repudiate such statements at any time."

* * *

FROM LUSAKA, Peace News correspondent Basil Delaine writes: "I contacted CAA office, Lusaka, and received the following replies to my questions.

"Q. Is separate seating provided for White people and Africans when travelling by CAA?

"A. (From a female counter employee): Well, the Africans are put to the front away from the Europeans.

"I then asked if it is true that Africans are offered tea and biscuits in the same way as Europeans.

"This seemed too much for the woman on the phone and she hastily put me through to the manager.

"To a repeat of my first question the manager replied:

"'All ticket-holders are treated the same according to our regulations, irrespective of colour, or creed.'

"Asked if it were possible that on this particular flight from Kariba to Lusaka on Jan. 16, tea, biscuits and sweets were supplied to Europeans only, he replied:

"'I don't know; I was not on the flight.'

* * *

"To sum up, I personally believe that, although CAA Regulations state that there shall be no discrimination, there is in fact discrimination practised by individual members of the staff. I am positive in my own mind that Father de Meulder has stated his facts accurately.

"This is not the first time I have heard of colour bar on planes in this country.

"It's the same old, old story. There is no *official* colour discrimination in the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

"But THERE IS COLOUR DISCRIMINATION!"

Miss Harriet Cohen, the well-known pianist, is to give a recital in the University of London Institute of Education Assembly Hall on Monday, March 4, at 8 p.m., in aid of the Africa Bureau. In this way Miss Cohen is expressing her own opposition to racialism and the restrictions it imposes on the enjoyment of the arts by under-privileged peoples. Tickets can be obtained from the Africa Bureau, 65 Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Rd., S.W.1. (TATe Gallery 0701.)

In a letter to Armond Luidi, Rene Coté, the President of France, acknowledged that the French Government had received "the demands of English pacifists for the release of French objectors."

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

£50,000,000, which is the military cost of the Suez war, is the amount required to build 31,000 three-bedroomed council houses, provide 180,000 secondary school places, or to electrify 200 miles of main line railway. It is twice the amount paid every year in the National Health Service charges, and it exceeds the annual outlay of the National Coal Board in reconstructing the coal industry. Fifty million pounds is over three times the Government's contribution to colonial development and welfare last year.

The General Assembly's Trusteeship Committee of the United Nations has recommended that a survey be made of the progress in the non-self-governing territories which has taken place in the last ten years. The recommendation, which awaits the approval of the Assembly itself, should be ready by 1959. Australia, France, the United Kingdom and Pakistan abstained while Belgium voted against the recommendation.

Alfred W. Parker, of Oakland, California, has been nominated for the 1957 Nobel Peace Prize by Japanese parliamentarians headed by Setsuo D. Yamada, Senator of the Hiroshima district. Alfred Parker, Secretary of the International World Peace Day Committee, instigated the international fund which provides for the planting of fruit trees in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He is also connected with the world campaign to end capital punishment.

Movement for Colonial Freedom . . . PUBLIC MEETING

CYPRUS — fact-finding mission reports

The Australian Mission:
Hon. CLIVE EVATT, Q.C.
D. DUNSTAN (Labour MP)
Professor BUCKLEY

Supported by:
FENNER BROCKWAY, MP
A. WEDGWOOD BENN, MP
and Ethnarchy representatives

KINGSWAY HALL, W.C.2. *7.30 p.m. Saturday, February 23*

February 22nd 1957

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U.N. AND THE BLOCS

IN a recent article in the New York Herald Tribune, Mr. Walter Lippmann, in an endeavour to show the difficulties that the United States must encounter in getting its policies implemented in the United Nations, examined the voting possibilities in the General Assembly from an arithmetical standpoint.

Of the 78 voting members (there are 80 members, but Hungary and South Africa are absent at present) the Western Bloc can count fairly reliably on 41, consisting of the States of North and South America and Western Europe and the older British Commonwealth States.

On the other side there are 10 Communist Bloc votes. There are also 11 Arab State votes that in present conditions the Communist Bloc have a reasonable chance of carrying with them.

Among the Afro-Asian States the Western Bloc can generally rely upon the votes of the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan and, of course, Nationalist China. The remainder are under the leadership of India, and it is this that gives Mr. Krishna Menon his power in the Assembly, for upon whether or not the votes of these States are gained depends the question of whether a two-thirds majority of the Assembly will be reached, without which any vote is ineffective.

★ ★

WHEN the figures are analysed in this way it will be seen how little morality enters into the vote.

When the UN Charter was framed and endorsed at San Francisco in 1945 the Powers had still to separate themselves into the two heavily armed blocs which dominate the world's affairs today. It was possible then to hope that the United Nations might be the beginning of a World Parliament and might give effect to the common aspirations of mankind toward an assured peace and the betterment of the conditions of the human race.

In the 12 years in which UN has existed it has here and there stopped bloodshed, where both the contending blocs have been willing that it should be stopped, and it has provided the machinery of approach to the problems of human betterment through which some small gains have been registered ; worth while but pitifully small if set beside the military expenditure undertaken as a result of the bloc alignment—estimated at about £16 per year for every man, woman and child on the earth.

Because the bloc structure is so much more important than the structure of UN it is impossible for the General Assembly (let alone the Security Council) to represent the moral conscience of mankind. As Mr. Lippmann remarks in the article to which we have referred :

> **"The General Assembly is a place where nobody can afford to stand up in public and be reasonable. He will be regarded at home as a traitor."**

The consequence is that the real discussions that settle the votes in the Assembly go on behind the scenes, and are directed, not to the establishment of right or the finding of the best solution for a problem that has led to conflict, but to maintaining the solidity of the blocs.

★ ★

THIS can be seen operating in the present unqualified support that is being given to Egypt by the Russian bloc. There is not here a desire to achieve a peaceful settlement to the troubles that have created so much hatred between Arabs and Israelis, but a desire to have Egypt and the Arab States act with the Russian bloc.

It was to be seen operating also in the manoeuvring that went on before the final filleted resolution on Algeria was produced for the Assembly vote. Here the concern of the US Government was not to represent the views of the American people on this last bloody stage of French colonialism, but to placate the French and keep them lined up with American power after having condemned them for the invasion of Egypt.

Every so often we read of this or that group of progressive people propounding plans for the revision of the UN Charter and the reform of UN machinery. All such plans must inevitably be, in the main, futile. There can be no reform of the United Nations that will make any difference of substance while the two conflicting power blocs continue to operate.

The really important thing to be done if UN is ever to have a chance to function reasonably is to get rid of the blocs.



A PAMPHLET issued by the Government of Cyprus last week accuses Archbishop Makarios of being involved in a "conspiracy" and of having brought to Cyprus a "brutalised and disappointed soldier (Colonel George Grivas) to organise the campaign of violence."

This information was given to the British public by the Daily Express (February 16) with an unpleasant caricature of the Archbishop at the top, the caption reading: "This man sent for a killer."

This is not the first time that a British Colonial Government has seen fit first to intern an inconvenient person without trial, and then to libel him with accusations to which he is prevented from replying.

It is not remarkable that a paper like the Daily Express should go one better than the Government of Cyprus in smearing the character of a man against whom nothing has been proved in any court of law.

If the Government really has evidence, or believes that it has, against Archbishop Makarios, clearly the correct line would have been to bring him to trial. The fact that it does not do so, but attacks him in this cowardly way, supported by the less pleasant newspapers of our own country, is a striking example of the deterioration of moral standards in official behaviour.

We do not expect any better of the Daily Express, but we have a right to expect and demand more honourable behaviour on the part of the Government.

Mr. Shepilov's note

THE proposals in the notes on the Middle East handed to the British, American and French Ambassadors in Moscow by Mr. Shepilov just before he ceased to be the Russian Foreign Minister contained an element of the usual "pious" but rather meaningless enunciation of desirable objectives such as "settling disputed questions exclusively by peaceful negotiations," and also "respect for the sovereignty and independence of these countries," which, coming from Russia at the present time can only produce a wry grimace.

They also included some of the usual one-sided proposals such as the demand for "the liquidation of foreign bases" which are not likely to be conceded without the offer of some quid pro quo, and have mainly a propaganda significance in the style of the World Peace Council pronouncements.

Points five and six, however, which could better have been made one and two, do provide a basis for discussion that ought not to be missed. These are:

> "The mutual renunciation of the supply of arms to countries of the Near and Middle East ; and
>
> "Co-operation towards the economic development of the countries of the Near and Middle East without making any political, military, or other conditions whatever incompatible with the dignity and sovereignty of these countries."

If there could be genuine co-operation between Russia and the Western Powers in helping countries in need of development, it could be a most important step towards the transformation of international relationships, and a big move to the ending of the cold war.

Cyprus Peace proposals Kashmir

New dangers

SUCH a decision to co-operate would not be without its own dangers of new forms of cold warfare.

There could, for instance, easily be disputes as to whether the government of King Saud was a fitting recipient for external aid for Saudi Arabia. Given the elimination of the "mutual security" aspect of military competition, however, the difficulties that could arise in this field ought not to be insuperable.

We are strongly of the opinion that the Western Governments ought to be ready to engage in talks on the basis of these proposals, and we are glad to observe that the Leader of the Liberal Party in Parliament, Mr. Grimond, has declared that Britain should be ready to meet Russia for negotiations on the basis of this note.

International Court

THE Indian Government is considering whether the tangle of issues involved in the case of Kashmir shall be taken to the International Court of Justice. This would be a welcome step on the part of Mr. Nehru's Government.

The Kashmir dispute, like the Suez dispute, is an example of how a Government and the people supporting it can develop, as a result of an earlier feeling of grievance, an attitude of mind which prevents it from realising the true character of its present acts.

In the Suez case the defiant challenge of Colonel Nasser in his sudden nationalisation of the Suez Canal helped to create in some sections of British opinion an attitude of blind indignation which made possible the British participation with France in the aggressive war on Egypt.

In the Kashmir case the Indians give too great an importance at present to the fact that it was India in December, 1947 that took a complaint to the United Nations about aggression by Pakistan. It is this that leads to their anger at the fact that UN has pronounced against India as a result of subsequent developments.

There are a number of intricate questions involved in the Kashmir dispute that only a body like the International Court at the Hague can unravel. For instance, the original accession of the Maharajah of Kashmir to India, which took place after the invasion by Pakistani tribesmen followed by Pakistani forces, was undertaken on the representations of Lord Mountbatten.

The Maharajah had appealed to Delhi for troops to assist him. Lord Mountbatten had replied that this could not be done as it would merely be meeting one external invasion by another unless Kashmir became legally a part of India. When one contemplates today the assemblages of troops of the different powers around the world one can only regard this pronouncement with astonishment.

What has followed the declaration by the UN Commission in favour of a plebiscite on December 11, 1948 has been a wrangle over the evacuation of Pakistani and Indian troops from Kashmir and Jammu, each Government providing reasons why the other should move first. The attitude of the Israelis today over the Gaza strip and the Gulf of Aqaba has considerable similarity.

U.N. Commission

AS long ago as August 29, 1949, the UN Commission asked India and Pakistan to submit their differences over this question to arbitration. The Pakistan Government agreed, but the Indian Government rejected the proposal.

With the passage of years this issue would not prove an easy matter for the International Court to pronounce upon, but it might provide for a setting out of the facts and help to provide the conditions in which the preparations that the UN Commission was making for the holding of a plebiscite may be resumed.

We are fully aware both that India has legitimate grounds for complaint against much that has been done by Pakistan, and that the Government that has a moral right to deplore the present attitude of Mr. Nehru's Government does not exist.

He is acting according to accepted standards in such matters and he has the Indian people behind him.

There is certainly in India no such criticism of Mr. Nehru over the Kashmir case as there was in this country over the aggression in Egypt.

We have to hope, however, that some Government will take the lead in pioneering for new practices in disputes like this, and there has seemed to be good reason to look to India as such a pioneer.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM ONE OF INDIA'S ELDER STATESMEN

Kashmir: a reply from C. Rajagopalachari

I READ with care and respect the observations in the "In Perspective" column of your esteemed journal of February 8 relating to India's stand on the Kashmir issue.

Permit me to write a letter on the subject for publication in your columns as India's link with the Commonwealth depends on the understanding of India's view points at least in circles other than the present British Government.

CONTRACT FULFILLED

Your arguments and the earnest appeal contained in them came to this —that India had agreed to a plebiscite and this contract should be honoured. There is force in the appeal and for a precedent I can draw your attention to a fact not sufficiently remembered—that during the terrible period when trouble had broken out between Pakistan and India, the Government of India handed over to Pakistan hard cash—50 crores of rupees equivalent to 100 million dollars—in fulfilment of the contract entered into at partition in spite of the plea of peace-loving Indians of the highest status then in public life, that the money if given at that critical moment in technical fulfilment of a promise, would be used only to kill Indian soldiers in Kashmir and to prolong the conflict.

We respected the contract, though there are people even now who think bitterly that it was this policy that led to the frenzy that led some young men to take away Gandhi's precious life on January 30, 1948. So much for the sacredness of a contractual obligation.

But, dear Editor, I submit the present case is different. The offer to accept the verdict of a plebiscite for finding out the desire of the people of Kashmir was a step taken not as a part of a contract entered into between Pakistan and India, but to put a stop to an armed conflict by an aggressor.

India defended unarmed Kashmir against the surprise invasion in fulfilment of the contract that had been entered into by India with the then Government of Kashmir before there was any inkling of the Pakistan invasion.

After holding the Pakistan forces in check, the offer of accepting the verdict of the people was made to terminate the aggression.

This was not a contract in any sense. It was what was extracted by an unjustifiable and immoral armed attack which should and could have been halted by the UN without any such condition.

AGGRESSOR'S CLAIM

Eight years have passed since then and the people of Kashmir have been living in peace and since then framed their constitution and federated with the people of India in preference to the neighbour on the other side.

An aggressor's claim based on an offer that was extracted at the point of the rifle eight years ago, or which was, if you like so to put it, gratuitously made by India for the sake of peace cannot be made the basis of the claim for fulfilment that you make in your columns.

DANGERS OF PLEBISCITE

According to the moral or civil law of obligations, there is no obligation whatsoever if an offer was extracted by force of a surprise armed attack on an unarmed people, whom India was bound by treaty to defend. Apart from all this, look at it merely from the point of view of peace which I presume we all earnestly desire.

A plebiscite now would certainly lead to a mass campaign of hatred based on religious bigotry between close neighbours who have been living in peace these many centuries. It would certainly lead to a change of Government in India and Heaven knows what else.

No lover of peace can support the proposal for a plebiscite to be held in Kashmir now. It is a pound of Antonio's flesh that would be disastrous to the peace of Asia and of the world.—C. RAJAGOPALACHARI, 60 Bazullah Rd., Madras 17, India.

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR APPEAR ON PAGE FIVE.

From the Editor's Notebook

No Conscription Conference

DELEGATES and visitors from Worcestershire and Sussex, and a Co-op Guild delegation from Derbyshire will be among those attending the London Conference on "Conscription in Britain," tomorrow (Saturday).

Fenner Brockway, MP, will open the first session at 2.30 p.m. in the Mission Hall, Crestfield St., W.C.1 (opposite King's Cross Station).

He will be speaking on "Conscription in Britain, 1916-1957." No one who has not heard Fenner Brockway speak on this subject should miss this opportunity.

Fenner was the first Secretary of the No Conscription Fellowship, set up in World War I and destined to blaze the trail for the War Resisters' International.

I understand that visitors will be admitted at the door on payment of 2s. But if you are reading this in London on Friday, phone TER 3910 to be sure of a place.

George MacLeod in New Zealand

I HEAR that Dr. George MacLeod of the Iona Community made a big impression on 1,200 New Zealanders when he addressed a youth conference organised by the NZ Council of Churches recently.

Three big questions were up for discussion : Church Union ; War on Want ; War on War.

Dr. MacLeod made "an impact similar to that of C. F. Andrews and Kagawa in pre-war years," Bruce Barnitt of New Plymouth, NZ, writes.

"John Ferguson's LETTER TO A NON-PACIFIST CHRISTIAN and Peace News were widely read by those who had never heard much of this issue."

It is good to know that someone was ready with a supply of Peace News and other literature for this occasion.

On Tower Hill

A CROWD of over 100 people, comprising bowler-hatted city men, muscular dockers, Teddy boys and girls, typists, clerks, and lorry drivers swarmed around Dr. Soper when he addressed them on Tower Hill during Wednesday lunchtime last week.

"How can I get you to listen to me when Dr. Soper's here?" wailed another speaker on the pitch. "I forgot it was Wednesday and he'd be here. I always try to avoid Wednesdays."

If a stalwart person cannot avoid being anywhere else but on Tower Hill during a Wednesday lunchtime, there's a vacancy for a Peace News seller. It is a lively and interesting spot, and though a chilly wind blows up from the river, there's a mobile snack bar adjoining Dr. Soper's pitch.

White on top

"THE colour bar is not vertical—it is horizontal. I'm above ; you are down there!"

Reginald Reynolds' words made a sharp impact on his audience at Lewes, Sussex, last week.

He was speaking on "Black and White in Africa and America," to a full meeting in the Friends Meeting House organised by Quakers there and supported by the Rev. Kenneth Rawlings and chaired by Councillor Barber.

William Stevens, Clerk to the Quaker Meeting, tells me that £5 was collected, on the suggestion of a member of the audience, for the Christian Action Fund for the defence of men and women involved in the South African "Treason Trials."

They will hear William Worthy

THE New England office of the American Friends Service Committee announces that William Worthy, correspondent for the Baltimore Afro-American and for CBS News, will be a featured guest at the fifth annual Institute on "The Quaker Approach to Contemporary Affairs."

Bill Worthy's despatches appear frequently in Peace News. He is the first American correspondent to enter Communist China, defying a US State Department ban on such travel.

In a television interview when he arrived back in the US on Feb.10, William Worthy spoke of the reasons for his visit to China, which, he said, was undertaken as much in the service of the principle of a free Press as for the "scoop" that his China visa offered him.

If the Government was allowed to dictate where a journalist could gather his news, he said, the next step was that it would dictate what the journalist was to write.

Mr. Worthy travelled freely in China—he was barred from only one area, the mainland facing Formosa, The Times (London) reported.

He interviewed one of the 10 remaining civilian prisoners, a Lutheran missionary, who he said had been "brainwashed" and had spoken at length of the "kind, considerate treatment" which he had received from his Chinese captors.

The powerful American Newspaper Publishers' Association has protested to President Eisenhower on Worthy's behalf, according to the London News Chronicle.

NEW ENGLAND INSTITUTE

This year the New England Institute will meet from July 20-27 at a new site, Pembroke Centre, New Hampshire, high above the Merrimac River Valley. This centre has just been newly redecorated, includes a new auditorium and a new swimming pool, and will in every way meet the needs of the 150 persons expected to participate in the Institute.

Among the other speakers who will be on hand for the week are: Anna Brinton, who spent last year working for the AFSC in Japan; Henry J. Cadbury, chairman of the American Friends Service Committee; Milton Mayer, free-lance writer and lecturer, author of THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE FREE; Morris Mitchell, founder of the Macedonia community and educator.

Grigor McClelland, British Quaker, will complete a two-month speaking tour in the United States by participating in this "Avon-at-Pembroke" Institute.

Those who are interested in the Institute are urged to write to the AFSC office, PO Box 247, Cambridge 38, Mass., for further details.

A thirty-minute recording of extracts from the Cambridge Union Society Debate on Racial Segregation will be broadcast in the BBC's Light Programme from 4.30-5 p.m. on Sunday, March 3.

HOLIDAYS 1957

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THE PROBLEM OF WANT

Conference to be held

BOTH Britain and the USA pledged themselves in the Atlantic Charter to fight *want* in the impoverished countries throughout the world. Though much has been accomplished, much remains to be done.

The Council for "War on Want," who are grappling with this problem are working on a co-ordinating basis with local "War on Want" groups in various parts of Britain. The Council assists the groups by sending information and literature and by accepting requests for speakers.

Members of Parliament serving on the Council, which meets every month at the House of Commons, include: Reginald Moss (Chairman), Hilary Marquand (Treasurer), Arthur Henderson, John Strachey, Fenner Brockway, Arthur Blenkinsop, Harold Wilson, Henry Usborne, John Rankin and Will Owen.

"In an effort to face the reality of this problem" of want and poverty the Council is directing particular attention to the organising of a large conference on Saturday, April 6, at the Holborn Hall. The conference will open at 2 p.m. and close at 8 p.m. and there will be a short tea interval.

■ ■ ■

Speakers at the conference will include the following MPs: James Griffiths, Arthur Creech-Jones, Hilary Marquand, Joseph Grimond and Arthur Blenkinsop. Also speaking are: Sir Richard Acland, Lady Hilda Selwyn-Clarke (Secretary, Fabian Colonial Bureau), W. P. Watkins (Secretary, International Co--operative Alliance), Shaun Herron (Editor, British Weekly) and Joseph Murumbi (Joint Secretary, Movement for Colonial Freedom).

There will be an opportunity for questions in the first session and a brains trust is included in the second session.

Fees for the conference are: delegates, 1s. 6d. each; or three delegates 3s.; visitors 2s. each.

For further particulars and tickets to the conference write to the Secretary, Council for "War on Want," 374 Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.1.

Council for racial equality

A NATIONAL COUNCIL against Racial Discrimination is to be formed with the object of co-ordinating the activities of organisations in Britain which stand for the practice of racial equality.

This was decided at a conference in London on February 7.

The Movement for Colonial Freedom co-operated in holding the conference which put forward recommendations concerning coloured immigrants in Britain, abolition of the colour bar, and improving conditions in colonial territories for consideration by the new anti-discrimination body which was proposed.

The organisations represented at the conference were: Fiji Students, International Language Club, International Association, League of Coloured Peoples, Action Group, Anti-Slavery Society, Teachers for Peace, United Nations Association, Third Way.

Malay Society of Great Britain, Malayan Forum, International Friendship League, Racial Brotherhood Association, National Peace Council, Aggrey Housing Society, Racial Unity, All Nations Social Club.

Coloured People's Society, National Council of Nigeria and the Cameroons, Muslim Committee for Algeria, Sudanese Students in UK, International Society of Nottingham University, and Union of Mauritius Students in UK.

TO AUSTRALIA AND BACK AGAIN



PEACE NEWS reader L. D. Wilkinson, of 9 Almondbury Road, Mount Lawley, Western Australia, received the Feb. 1 Peace News in time to write a letter about its contents on Feb 5. Posted the next day, the letter was on my desk in London on Feb. 12.

The air mail edition of Peace News keeps peace workers everywhere up-to-date on issues which receive very little publicity in other newspapers.

"Each week," writes a reader from Calgary, Canada, "we await with interest the coming of this courageous and outspoken paper."

Like our home edition, the air edition needs an increased circulation to make it self-supporting, and so we ask our readers everywhere to go all out to win new readers.

Is there someone for whom you could take out a trial subscription: 8 weeks 2s. 6d. in Britain and abroad by surface mail. By air mail for 12 weeks: 7s. to North Africa and the Middle East; 8s. India, South, East and West Africa, America and S.E. Asia; 9s. Australasia and the Far East.

And while we are building up our slowly increasing circulation, will you do your best to help us meet our publishing deficit of over £5,000. We need £2,717 by Dec. 31.

THE EDITOR.

Contributions since January 31: £33 15s. 8d.
Total since January 1, 1957: £283 9s. 4d.

Contributions gratefully acknowledged: In memory of Arnold Gray, 10s.; Anonymous, from Lanark, £1.

Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace News Ltd., and address them to Lady Clare Annesley. Joint Treasurer, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

MY ADVENTURE IN AUSTRIA

The walk to the Hungarian frontier

by MICHAEL RANDLE

I ARRIVED at the first town, Schwechar, round about one o'clock and distributed leaflets there. I also stopped for a cup of coffee and found that it was a great relief to get my knapsack off my back. One of my biggest mistakes had been to over-fill it and it was much too heavy for a long hike of this kind.

Then I set off again.

There were very few people on the road except for the occasional peasant, but there was a lot of heavy traffic and the lorry drivers would turn round in their seats as they went by to see what it was all about.

One man on a motorised bike turned back when he saw me. "Bravo! Bravo!" he exclaimed. I pointed to myself and said "Englander" by way of explaining my silence and gave him a leaflet. He seemed very pleased indeed and shook hands with me warmly before setting off again. Later a peasant woman got out her purse to pay me when I gave her a leaflet.

I had just left the village of Dorf and donned my placard again, when I met a very large fellow in peasant dress carrying a long shovel. He spoke Hungarian and was very interested indeed.

He read the Hungarian script of the placard aloud and looked at the leaflet. Then he took off his leather glove and shook me by the hand and patted me on the back. It was a gesture that warmed my heart and that I shall never forget.

Once I got outside the village the road was completely deserted and there was only a very occasional car. I noticed that my feet were incliined to slip on the surface of the road and that it was freezing quite hard.

I reached Arbesthal, the next village on the road, about 12 km from Dorf, just before six o'clock. It is a typical farming village. Most of the people I passed were carrying milk pails and they all bade me a friendly good-night as I passed.

Their big alsatian dogs barked loudly at the odd stranger that was trespassing on their domain. As I left I could see the warm glow of the lights of the next village, Gottlesbrun, a few kms. away, and this kept my spirits up. But I must confess that the last few kms. to Bruck seemed very long.

SIX INCHES OF SNOW

The weight of the knapsack was telling on my back and my feet were sore. It was a great satisfaction to me when I finally arrived at the lights that had been teasing me from the distance for so long.

A railway worker who addressed me as "comrade" showed me the way to the hotel-restaurant. I dumped my pack wearily on the restaurant floor, and asked for a room.

That night I kept all my clothes on and put anything extra I could find on top of the blanket, but I was still awake and shivering at four o'clock in the morning. After that I did manage to doze off. Six inches of snow fell during the night.

Bruck is probably slightly more than half way to the border, and as I was making an early start I didn't think the day's going would be so difficult. But my feet which were sore and blistered made it more so if anything. I walked as much as possible on the softer snow on the sides of the road, which seemed to ease things somewhat.

I stopped in Bruck for about half an hour or so distributing leaflets to passers by who were avidly curious. I wondered how often before, if indeed ever, anyone had passed through the town distributing leaflets.

Michael Randle, a 22-year-old pacifist left London for Austria on December 22 in an attempt to reach the Hungarian frontier. He hoped to be able to express his solidarity with those in Hungary who had used passive resistance and with the Russian soldiers who had refused to fire on the unarmed people. Last week he told how, after difficulties he managed to have a leaflet, expressing these views, translated into Hungarian and German, how he received permission from the Austrian authorities to distribute it en route to the Hungarian border and how he finally set out from Vienna for the border town of Nickelsdorf, some 40 miles away.

It was perhaps a unique experience for them.

I passed now through a succession of villages separated by a few kms. The roads were lonely but the villagers I met were all interested and friendly.

NICKELSDORF REACHED

The last seven odd kms. to Nickelsdorf was quite a struggle for I was tired and footsore. The snow had soaked through my shoes so that my feet were very wet. When I reached my destination I put up at a guest-house for the night.

The next morning I presented myself at the customs'-house-cum-police station at the futher end of the village and handed over the letter explaining my visit.

There were several people there, some in police uniform, and they all got up from their seats to examine the letter and the leaflet. They looked at me with curiosity—astonishment even! One of them who spoke English told me that I would probably be allowed to go to the frontier, but would not be permitted to cross.

There was further surprise when I made it known to them that I had just walked all the way from Vienna. I had eaten nothing that day and was determined to keep up my proposed fast even if the frontier vigil was not possible.

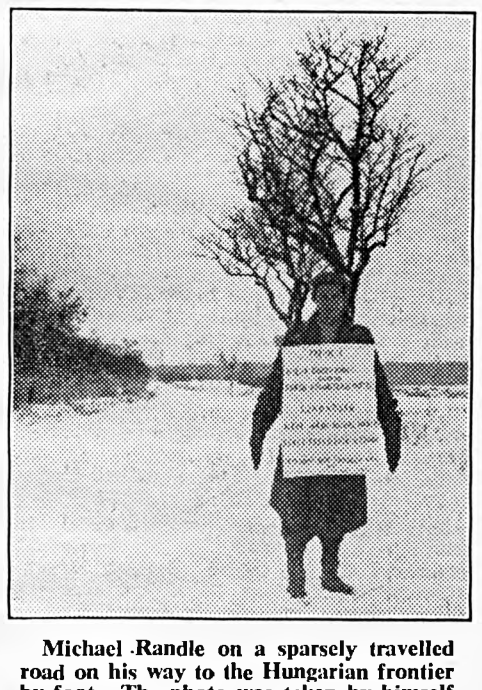
About half an hour later I was taken with my luggage into a Volkswagen car. The police officer who had been so friendly and two other policemen accompanied me, but we drove off, not in the direction of the frontier as I had anticipated, but in the other direction, to the town of Eisenstadt. We got out at a large police station.

Inside I was joined by an English speaking Red Cross worker who acted as interpreter while I made a statement to the police which was typed out for me to sign. I was surprised at all this bother and delay and emphasised that I had informed the police at Vienna of my plans. I was even more surprised and indignant when I was informed that the leaflets would be confiscated.

Before I left the police station I was asked if there were anything I would like to eat. I explained that I was fasting, but that I would like a glass of water. The policeman in question looked at me in amazement. "Tell him," he said to my interpreter, "that he can have anything he wants."

I stuck to the water. I was then taken back to the car and five of us—quite a squeeze!—left for Vienna.

The friendly police officer and the driver



Michael Randle on a sparsely travelled road on his way to the Hungarian frontier by foot. The photo was taken by himself by means of a delayed shutter.

were in front, and the Red Cross interpreter and a girl and myself were in the back.

My friends left me at Vienna police station where I was taken to the room where I had seen the "high ranking officer" only a few days before. There were two different officers there but I didn't anticipate any further trouble.

What was my surprise, therefore, when I was told that I must sign an undertaking to leave Austria within three days. I refused to sign, even though I had to leave in any case, for I was due to return to work within a few days.

I could not see why I should be ordered to leave the country for doing something for which I had already received police approval. But the two police officers spoke hardly any English and communication between us was almost impossible. One of them phoned up several professors in the hope of finding an interpreter. Hours passed. I was feeling very tired.

At last another man came in who did speak some English. He explained to me that unless I signed I would be expelled. I told them to go ahead if they wanted to do that, and told him of how I had got permission from the police only a few days before for everything I had done.

POLICEMAN FETCHED

Finally they got exasperated and one of them went downstairs to fetch a policeman to imprison me—at least that was the impression I gathered. The man returned with a uniformed policeman several minutes later. I got up quietly and put on my knapsack ready to go, but I was told to sit down again, and the policeman was sent away.

After this my relationship with the police officers—one or two others had come in—was not so friendly.

One of them came over to where I was sitting and looked at me scornfully and asked his colleagues—if I am not mistaken—if this was an example of a pacifist.

It did not occur to me however that all this trouble had perhaps arisen as a result of a misunderstanding. Perhaps my interpreter on Monday, whose English had not been very good, had failed to make it clear what I had intended to do at the border, or perhaps the people in Nickelsdorf had got a wrong impression of my intentions.

☐ ON PAGE FOUR

Seven years at the United Nations

LESLIE ALDOUS (UNA Information Officer) reviews

The Second Lesson : Seven Years at the United Nations, by Bernard Moore, London, Macmillan, 21s.

"THE United Nations is not **them,** it is **us**—every one of us seeking, as citizens of the world, peace and security for humanity."

Ernest Bevin's words, spoken at the first Assembly in 1946, might well have been in Bernard Moore's mind when he wrote his welcome book. It is about the men and women who, in their various capacities, contribute to the success or failure of the organisation.

Shrewd character sketches bring them all to life: The delegates, often in the limelight. The Secretariat members, playing their unobtrusive part behind the scenes. And, not least in importance, "our own correspondent," whose handling of the news determines what millions of ordinary people think about the United Nations.

Do not miss the chapter on "Camp Followers." The impact of the American way of life on one British family transplanted to New York is brilliantly described.

★ ★ ★

Clearly the author is well aware of the disadvantages of having the UN headquarters in New York. It is ironic that Soviet objections to Geneva tipped the scales in favour of the United States. The constant glare of arc lights and television cameras are at times a real handicap to the "town meeting of the world."

Nothing, in Mr. Moore's view, has done UN more harm than the denial of proper representation to China. Never has a central issue been so obscured by prejudice and irrelevant arguments. When Mr. Trygve Lie urged that UN should act in accordance with the facts, he was accused of being "a stooge of the Reds."

In a rapid survey of UN's "war against want," the scope of technical assistance now being offered by the specialised agencies is described as "astonishing."

In this field, says Mr. Moore, one tends to hear more of the successes than of the failures. As one of the failures, strangely enough, he cites "Unesco's project in the Morbial (sic) Valley of Haiti." In the Marbial Valley, under the worst possible conditions, UN pioneers have made a start with stamping out such evils as disease and illiteracy. Against such heavy odds, even modest results deserve credit.

True, the ambitious project to develop the Hylean Amazon has been virtually abandoned. That is because the governments concerned lacked the vision and drive to follow Unesco's lead.

In technical assistance, some degree of "trial and error" is inevitable, to acquire valuable experience for the future. Bernard Moore is therefore right when he claims that "the failures detract only slightly from the tremendous achievements" of the specialised agencies.

THE RECORD OF SUEZ

JOHN BANKS reviews

The Suez War, by Paul Johnson, London, MacGibbon & Kee, 10s. 6d.

THIS book starts with the withdrawal of American support for the Aswan Dam project, and ends with the withdrawal of the Anglo-French forces from Port Said. Consequently the narrative is concise, and, indeed, reads like a "thriller."

The Author, Assistant Editor of the New Statesman and Nation, manages to give both information on the background of more distant events leading up to the "crisis," and considerable insight into the motives of the politicians who figure in this sorry episode. The book is an invaluable record, and everyone should read it. The following were the only questionable statements :

On page 4, we are told that what finally decided Dulles over the Aswan Dam was "the news that Nasser was to take part in a meeting on the Yugoslav island of Brioni with Nehru and Tito." This is plausible, but no definite evidence is offered.

On page 89 we are told that as a result of the French capture of the Algerian rebel leaders, "Tunisia and Morocco broke off diplomatic relations with France." They did not.

On page 118 we read that "At all stages of the Suez crisis he (Eden) assured Ministers . . . that Russia would not interfere . . . whatever we did." How did Mr. Johnson have access to Cabinet secrets ?

Finally, on page 121 we read that the provisional Hungarian Government formed at Gyor on October 29 was "dominated by Social Democrats." A pity, because there were hardly any Social Democrats in that government, or in Mr. Nagy's Government of October 31.

But on page 123 we read that the double standard of judgement applied by Nehru to Hungary and Egypt was "hypocritical and dishonest"—a hard but proper thing for an obvious admirer of Mr. Nehru to write.

See Letters to Editor—p. 5

PPU RELIGION COMMISSION
Pacifist Universalist Service
3.30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 24, 1957
Friends' International Centre
32 Tavistock Square, W.C.1
(Nearest Stn-Euston Square)
Discourse by Dr. L. Ian Fearn
"SCIENCE, SANITY AND PEACE"

CAUSES OF STRIFE IN IRELAND

by Geoffrey Carnall

THE recent outbreaks of violence by armed groups in Northern Ireland have been deplored on both sides of the border—by Mr. Costello, Prime Minister of the Republic, as well as by Lord Brookeborough, Prime Minister of Ulster ; by Mr. De Valera, leader of the opposition in the Dail, as well as by Mr. McSparran, the nationalist leader in the Ulster House of Commons.

It is now more than a year since the Catholic Hierarchy in Ireland made a considered statement condemning the Irish Republican Army—which is, in any case, illegal both in the Republic and in the north. The weight of authority opposed to the IRA is awe-inspiring. Why has it become increasingly active ?

There is a fair amount of sympathy for the IRA among Irish nationalists, even if it is sympathy with reservations. For one thing, the IRA has the advantage of being able to claim that it alone is doing something positive to end the partition of Ireland, while the politicians talk and do nothing.

The blowing up of police stations and military barracks, of bridges and wireless equipment, gives in itself some satisfaction to the frustrated patriot.

There is, it is true, the risk of starting a landslide of reprisals and renewed civil war. But it must be acknowledged that the IRA has succeeded in once more making the unification of Ireland a live issue. Whether it is likely to make Ulster Unionists less intransigent is quite another matter, however.

UNIONISTS' ARGUMENTS

The Unionists have three main arguments against joining the Republic of Ireland. The industry of the north is closely linked to that of Great Britain, and a political separation might adversely affect present business and future development.

Social welfare benefits are better in the United Kingdom than in the Republic, and it would be a serious hardship to lose these.

Finally—and this is the argument that really stirs the feelings—Dublin Government means Roman Catholic Government. The Church would impose its teaching about family limitation and divorce even on those who do not accept its authority. Outspoken criticism of the Church at home or abroad would cause such inconvenience to the critic that he would probably not take the risk.

The Irish censorship is notorious for the range and verve of its prohibitions.

The third objection is met to some extent by the proposal that the Protestant areas should have a separate government, like the present one, only linked with Dublin instead of Westminster. There is, to put it mildly, no enthusiasm for this idea among Unionists. Indeed, I have been surprised by the real horror with which some of my Protestant friends regard the possibility of ending partition on any terms.

Centuries of conflict lie behind this attitude. It is supported by the natural fear of the unknown—a darkness in which the active imagination can pick out dim shapes of persecution and impoverishment.

Given this state of mind, it follows that the Unionists are bound to want to hold on to political authority, even if it means arranging the boundaries of electoral districts in order to minimise the nationalist vote, and discriminating against Catholics in housing allocations.

Complaints about this kind of thing come mainly from the west and south of Ulster, where the Catholics are actually often in a majority. The sense of grievance thus produced does not make it easier for the police to deal with the IRA, which works mainly in these areas.

Thus stated, the deadlock seems complete. Fear leads to injustice ; injustice reinforces fear. But it is not quite as bad as that. Mr. Costello has suggested that there should be more "functional" co-operation between the two Irish Governments.

He mentions atomic energy as something that would have to be dealt with on an all-Ireland basis. It is not clear whether he has worked this idea out in any detail, but it has the merit of not demanding agreement on the political question. At the same time it would do something to meet Ireland's economic troubles.

RECONCILIATION

These troubles encourage the feeling that the country is a backwater from which it is best to emigrate. Hence the paralysis of Irish politics—a paralysis from which the IRA tries to escape by blind violence.

A good deal of new industry has been attracted into Ulster as a British development area, but even here there is a high rate of unemployment. Greater economic consultation between Dublin, Belfast, and Westminster might make the political division seem less important.

But that is a matter for experts. The most difficult task of reconciliation is one which can only be done by amateurs. This is the reducing of tension between the Protestant and Catholic communities. It is difficult, because the Catholics in particular tend to keep themselves in a closed community.

In Belfast we are fortunate in having a single university which both communities attend. There is a fair amount of co-operation in social work.

Opportunities for working together for common purposes are there, in fact. Taking them, however, requires much patient persistence. It is a symptom of the stagnation of Ireland that the will to persist is not very evident.



"Gad, sergeant, I never thought to see the day when I would contemplate becoming a G.I!"

SENIOR SCHOOL CORNER

Singing the Blues

by ROYSTON ELLIS

Senior school boys and girls are invited to send contributions for publication in this occasional column.

THERE is a much whistled song currently on the hit parade called "Singing the Blues." Book-laden children on the way to school and nicotine-stained office boys are all lustily proclaiming that they have never felt more like singing that song.

This cannot be true.

We—I was born in 1941—the modern, jiving, swotting youths are more complex kids than those of other generations. Our first memories are of doodle bugs scaring sports meetings and of incendiaries encouraging nights of dining-room table shelter. That air raid warning introduction to life has left its scar even on our young minds.

The threat to youthful peace did not end in 1945. At one grammar school where I have been a pupil, if one cherishes any ambition to become a prefect or captain it is necessary to belong to either the Cadets or the Scouts. The comparatively peaceful Scouts often provide a solution to such a problem but, for the non-scouty, ambitious type, Cadets become compulsory.

Fortunately such callous "blackmail" does not happen in every State owned school. But, for every war-born boy, conscription is the inevitable doom to a peaceful 'teenage life. No wonder youth is "Singing the Blues."

Alternative to conscription

IN August the Presidium of the Polish Government announced that youths would in the future be given an opportunity to work in the coal mines instead of doing compulsory military service.

The Presidium of the Peoples' Council in agreement with the Regional Military Command are to conduct a campaign for voluntary enlistment for work in the coal mines with normal remuneration among recruits who have previously not been employed in mining.

Recruits living in the coal basin, or near-by, will get preference but this does not exclude volunteers from other regions.

Military recruits who volunteer for the work and undertake to work 20 months in collieries to which they are directed by the appropriate Peoples' Council and who present a certificate proving that they have started work will not be called upon to serve their basic term of military service.

Continuous work in coal mining for a period of 20 months will be counted as equal to the basic term of military service which is about 26 months.

These provisions, official Polish sources in London state, continue under the present regime.

A spokesman for the Polish Embassy has informed the War Resisters' International that the Polish Government has no objection to conscientious objectors availing themselves of these provisions in place of military service.

Why have a Navy ?

From the Daily Telegraph, January 8 1957

SOME time ago I mentioned the lack of a set form of service for commissioning RN ships. Lt. Cdr. A. R. Ellis, who commissions a new frigate, HMS Grafton, at cowes tomorrow, has sent me his choice.

It contains a particularly striking Bidding, which forms a sort of litany between the captain and his crew. It ends :

Captain : What do ye fear, seeing that God the Father is with you ?
Ship's Company : We fear nothing.
Captain : What do ye fear, seeing that God the Son is with you ?
Ship's Company : We fear nothing.
Captain : What do ye fear, seeing that God the Holy Spirit is with you ?
Ship's Company : We fear nothing.

A fitting inauguration for a fighting ship's crew.

Walk to the frontier

☐ FROM PAGE THREE

Soon an official from the British Embassy arrived and he developed this point.

I asked him why, if there had been a misunderstanding, this could not be explained to the police officers. He said that the matter might perhaps be cleared up afterwards, but that obviously they weren't going to accept my version of the story just like that.

Finally I agreed that if it was made quite clear that I thought the trouble had been caused through a misunderstanding and that I was not incriminating myself in any way, I would sign. I shook hands all round before leaving and apologised for the trouble I had caused. The atmosphere was again quite cordial when I left.

Did I act rightly in signing? I had many doubts about it afterwards and a friend in Vienna thought I definitely ought not to have done so. He said that after all the efforts I had made I had finally thrown up the sponge, but this was certainly not the case.

Whether I acted rightly or wrongly in signing it was certainly not through any motive of fear of the consequences of not doing so, but because it did seem to be, in view of the circumstances, a reasonable thing to do.

PROJECT WORTH WHILE

Finally, to what extent was the whole project worth while? What did it achieve? There were certainly some useful contacts made. Probably many people were faced with the challenge of pacifism for the first time. Moreover, it was a public gesture demonstrating what many pacifists feel about the situation in Hungary.

While I do not, I hope, exaggerate the importance of it, I do think the project was well worth while. It has forced me to think out my position on many issues and has given me many memories that I will always cherish, especially the help given by my friends in Vienna.

Thanks are also due to my critics who did at least help me to realise the sort of difficulties I would have to face.

I do not think that the project has any great significance, but it may at least stimulate other pacifists to work out more imaginative ventures. There is a real need today for such experiments in non-violence.

In LONDON en route to report the Gold Coast elections for Peace News :

Dr. HOMER JACK *

will speak on

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN RACE RELATIONS

in Weigh House Church Hall
Binney Street, Oxford Street, W.1.
(near Bond St. Und. Station)

Wednesday Feb. 27 at 7.15 pm
(Refreshments and bookstall from 6.30 p.m.)

Dr. Jack, who comes from Chicago, is minister of Evanston Unitarian Church and author of works on Gandhi as well as a distinguished reporter. The Bandung Conference, the non-violent march on Goa, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and the Eisenhower-Nehru Meeting are among the important events recently covered for Peace News. In the USA he contributes to The Christian Century and the Chicago Daily News.

A PEACE NEWS MEETING

Gandhi and Non-violence

a short list of recommended titles

TRUTH IS GOD, by M. K. Gandhi	4s. (3d.)
SARVODAYA (the Welfare of all), by M. K. Gandhi	5s. (4d.)
GANDHIAN TEACHINGS IN THE MODERN WORLD, Pyarelal	2s (3d.)
BASIC EDUCATION, by M. K. Gandhi	3s. (3d.)
WHICH WAY LIES HOPE? by Richard Gregg	2s. 9d. (3d.)
RESISTING EVIL WITHOUT ARMS, by Horace Alexander	6d. (2d.)
THE PRINCIPLES AND PHILOSOPHY OF BHOODAN YAGNA, by Vinoba Bhave	1s. (2d.)
GANDHI TO VINOBA, by Lanzo del Vasto	21s. (9d.)
PASSIVE RESISTANCE IN S. AFRICA, by Leo Kuper	21s. (9d.)
THE STORY OF MY EXPERIMENTS WITH TRUTH First cheap edition of Gandhi's autobiography	7s. 6d. (8d.)

(Please add postage as shown in brackets)

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HOUSMANS BOOKSHOP

the Peace News Booksellers

3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union.
Send YOUR pledge to
P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS
Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.1

Letters to the Editor

Suez and the Trade Unions

IN his recent and excellent book "The Suez War," the first on the subject, Mr. Paul Johnson omits an important point: the vital decision taken by the TUC General Council and the conference at Brighton in the first week in September to oppose the Government's Suez policy.

If the decision in the General Council had gone the other way (as it very nearly did) the future of humanity might have been very different. It is doubtful, for instance, whether the Labour Party could have put up, inside and outside Parliament, the determined and united struggle that it did.

Without such opposition the Government might not have been forced to halt at Port Said on November 6 and might have taken us all into the third World War.

The inside story was this: On the eve of the TUC Sir Vincent Tewson, its General Secretary, and Mr. Charles Geddes, chairman of its International Committee, were invited to 10 Downing Street to meet Sir Anthony.

His arguments were evidently persuasive since the two men travelled to Brighton to put before the International Committee the case for playing down the attack on the Government over Suez.

They met with support until, well on in the meeting, Alan Birch (Distributive Workers) made a 40-minute speech taking a diametrically opposed line and insisting that the Canal issue must first go to the United Nations. He suceeeded in delaying a decision.

The discussion was taken into the full General Council meeting the following day. Here Alan Birch was supported by Lewis Wright (Weavers' Amalgamation), who made the speech of his life, Frank Cousins (Transport and General Workers) and Robert Willis (London Typographical Association).

The result was a 26 to four vote for an anti-Government resolution (with a number of abstentions).

So was history made. I think that the histories of this disastrous invasion yet to be written might well include this episode. —**FRANK ALLAUN, House of Commons, London S.W.1.**

Parties to defence

DENIS BRIAN'S arguments against the Fellowship Party are precisely those which, 50 years ago, Liberals used against the Labour Party. When Labour appeared to be an anti-war party, it was told it had "little influence in the country" and that spending money on elections was waste "which could be more wisely spent on other peace projects."

The idea of a pacifist weekly was a hopeless dream.

If, at the moment, the Labour Party with its H-bombs is the alternative to a Conservative Party with H-bombs, it is because so many pacifists put loyalty to Labour before loyalty to pacifism.

For Mr. Brian to say "the only way for peacemakers to engage in political action is through the Labour Movement" is sheer nonsense. He may prefer that way, the way which, with all the influence he claims for it, has introduced since 1945, military conscription, atom bombs, and US bomber bases into Britain; but the Fellowship Party offers the only way to peace.

I honour those Labour pacifists who vote pacifist in the House; there are a few. But Mr. Brian conveniently overlooks other Labour MPs who are pacifists but could not even vote against German rearmament. In the House they disobeyed their members and voted *for* German rearmament. Is that "the greatest influence in political life" which we pacifists can exert? I don't believe it.—**JOAN WHITTINGTON, Blairbeth House, 8 St. Georges' Drive, London, S.W.1.**

MR. BRIAN is an optimist. Keir Hardie and George Lansbury both tried to lead the Labour Party to pacifism. Does Mr. Brian think the Labour Peace Fellowship will have better luck?

It does not follow a minority party must always remain so. It certainly must contest "hopeless" by-elections in order to become known.—**ALBERT LEAPER, 22 Barrington Ave., Hull.**

BEFORE we prepare to follow the advice proffered by those who wish us to join this or that party, it might serve some purpose to consider the sphere of politics and the structure of power in which politics operate.

Political power resides in Parliament, where a few hundreds of men, whose claim to statesmanship is earned by the gift of the gab, decide the fate of fifty millions and where the common voter has the privilege of watching from the gallery while his views are misrepresented below.

From the majority party is drawn the Government—a mere handful of men capable of quite arbitrary action as we know. But if it were a pacifist Government . . . ? If it were a pacifist Government it would be a contradiction in terms. How does one legislate without coercion, make laws without enforcing them?

Another danger of this structure of power is that those who hold it become peculiarly vulnerable to corruption, while those who don't —the governed—having shifted their responsibility on to their MP's shoulders become apathetic in matters which do not directly affect them.

Surely, not only the power State but also the state (structure) of power is conducive to war.

It might appear that by establishing more pacifists in Parliament that constitutional reforms would be forthcoming, perhaps eventually, disarmament.

But disarmament through legislation would not convert the public to pacifism or non-violence.

The first major nation to disarm would surely need to know itself ready to use non-violence if called upon. But where would the experience in non-violence and the great sacrifices that it calls for be obtained? Not from a statute book, not even a pacifist statute book.

The real changes that pacifism seeks are not primarily legislative but are changes of belief, of values, of way of life—of the heart. Though it is not easy, the first fundamental change required is in the social atmosphere and the people that make it.—**TERENCE CHIVERS, 22 Clapton Sq., London, E.5.**

Away with jingoism

MANY thanks, Frank Allaun, for the very thought provoking and down to earth article, "Away with Jingoism," in Peace News, February 1. It helped me to realise more than ever the sheer stupidity of war.

There is still hope for the world as long as there are men in responsible positions who have courage enough to condemn war.

Carry on with the good work, you have more supporters than you may sometimes realise.—**F. H. NAYLOR, 47 Smethurst Lane, Pemberton, Wigston, Lancs.**



Let each one of us who has a home and enough food and warmth do **something** for one of those who are short of these things . . . children and babies (and old people too) who are in stark need in Korea, on the exposed rooftops of Hong Kong, in drab refugee camps in Austria and other countries—victims of war or persecution through no fault of their own. Please befriend one of them—

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1. Send notices to arrive not later than Monday morning.
2. Include: Date, **TOWN, Time, Place** (hall, street); nature of event; speakers, organisers (and secretary's address)

Saturday, February 23

LONDON, W.C.2: 7.30 p.m.; Kingsway Hall, Kingsway. The Hon. Clive Evatt, QC, Mr. D. Dunstan, MP, Prof. Buckley (recently returned from a fact-finding mission to Cyprus), Fenner Brockway, MP, A. Wedgwood Benn, MP, and representatives of the Ethnarchy of Cyprus and the National Cypriot Committee. Chair. Patricia Rushton. Movement for Colonial Freedom.

KINGS CROSS: 2.30-7 p.m.; Mission Hall, Crestfield St. Conscription Conference. Fenner Brockway, MP, Bernard Withers and L. J. Cuming. Organisations and individuals welcomed. Credentials from No Conscription Council, Crestfield St., W.C.1.

ST. IVES: Treloyan Manor. Week-end conf. from 2 p.m. Saturday. "The Challenge of Africa". Leader: John Fletcher. Chair: Edgar Dunstan, of Portsmouth. FoR, PPU.

WOLVERHAMPTON: 3-7.30 p.m.; Half day school, Compton Grange, Ash Hill (No. 10 bus). "Hazards of Radio-activity," with the film "Children of Hiroshima." Lecturer: Dr. John Fremlin. Tickets 3s. 6d. Wolverhampton and District Peace Council.

Sunday, February 24

LONDON, W.C.1: 3.30 p.m.; Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Sq. (nearest tube, Euston Sq.). Dr. L. Ian Fearn, "Science, Sanity and Peace." Pacifist Universalist Service. Religion Commission, Peace Pledge Union.

Tuesday, February 26

EAST SHEEN: 8 p.m.; Vernon Hall, Vernon Rd. John Barclay, "International Help for Children." Peace Pledge Union.

Wednesday, February 27

BRISTOL 1: 7 p.m.; Hermes Room, 26 Broad St. Pooled ideas. Peace Pledge Union.

KIDBROOKE: 8.30 p.m.; Play: "The Wooden Dish." 141 Woolacombe Rd. Fellowship Party.

LONDON, W.1: 7.15 p.m. (refreshments from 6.30 p.m.); Weigh Ho. Ch., Binney St., Oxford St. Dr. Homer Jack, "An American Revolution on Race Relations." Peace News.

LONDON, W.C.1: 1 p.m.; Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Sq. Henry Usborne, MP, "The Need for a Permanent UN Constabulary." Chair. Dame Kathleen Lonsdale, FRS (sandwich lunch available, 2s., if ordered in advance). Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Thursday, February 28

HAMPSTEAD: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., 120 Heath St. (upstairs in library), Brooke Marvin of Peace News, "Pacifism in Action." Peace Pledge Union.

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.; Dick Sheppard Ho., 6 Endsleigh St., Allen Skinner, "What is democracy?" PYAG.

LONDON, E.C.3: 1.15 p.m.; Rev. Philip Eastman, "The Churches' Work in International Affairs." National Peace Council.

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.; Student Movement Ho., 103 Gower St. Arlo Tatum, "Pacifism: The Inward Basis." The Fellowship of Friends of Truth.

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Rd., E.11. Group Discussion. PPU.

Friday, March 1

HULL: 7.30 p.m.; 6 Bond St., Group business. Peace Pledge Union.

Saturday, March 2

BRIDGWATER: 3 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Friarn St. John Hoyland, "War on World Famine". Bridgwater Peace Group.

KENDAL: 2.30 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho. John Wrigley, "Peacemaking in the Atomic Age." Conference. Fellowship of Reconciliation.

LONDON, W.C.1: 3-5 p.m.; Dick Sheppard Ho., 6 Endsleigh St. Michael Cross, "The Science of Being." Visitors welcome. Religion Commission, Peace Pledge Union.

Monday, March 4

LONDON, W.C.1: 8 p.m.; Institute of Education, Assembly Hall, Malet St. Harriet Cohen, CBE. Pianoforte recital in aid of The Africa Bureau.

Thursday, March 7

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Rd., E.11. Elsie Pracey, BSc, "Problems of the Middle East." PPU.

Friday, March 8

LONDON, N.W.1: 7.30 p.m.; Friends Ho., Euston Rd. (room 11). Mrs. G. G. Coleman, "The Barrier of Colour in Southern Rhodesia." Chair. Sybil Morrison. PPU and Peace News.

Monday, March 11

WOODFORD GREEN: 7.45 p.m.; Sir James Hawkey Hall. Symposium; speakers from local and national organisations; "Which Way to Peace in 1957?" Woodford and Dist. Peace Committee.

Tuesday, March 26

LONDON, N.W.1: 7 p.m.; Friends Ho., Euston Rd. "The Failure of Violence—the Challenge of Pacifism." Leslie Hale, MP, Marjorie Lewis, Kathleen Lonsdale, DBE, DSc, FRS, Martin Niemoller, DD. Chair. Donald Soper, MA, PhD. Standing Joint Pacifist Committee.

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SUNDAYS

HYDE PARK: 4 p.m.; Pacifist Youth Action Group. Every Sunday. PYAG.

MONDAYS

SHIPLEY: 7.15 p.m.; Shipley Group in new premises in Labour Party Rooms, Westgate, Shipley.

TUESDAYS

MANCHESTER: 1-2 p.m.; Deansgate Blitz Site. Christian pacifist open-air mtg. Local Methodist ministers and others. MPF.

WEDNESDAYS

KIDBROOKE: 8 p.m.; 141 Woolacombe Rd. Talks, plays, discussion, music, radio, etc. Fellowship Party.

THURSDAYS

LEYTONSTONE: 8 p.m.; Friends Mtg. Ho., Bush Road. E.10 and E.11 Group. PPU.

LONDON, W.C.1: 1.15-1.45 p.m.; Church of St. George the Martyr, Queen St. Weekly lunch-hour Service of Intercession for World Peace. Conducted by Clergy and laymen of different denominations.

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.; Dick Sheppard Ho., 6 Endsleigh St. PYAG.

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MEETINGS

A PHILOSOPHER LOOKS AT EUTHANASIA. Professor Anthony Flew, Thursday, March 7, 7.30 p.m. Room 12, Friends Meeting House, Euston Rd., N.W.1. Euthanasia Society, 86 Rochester Row, S.W.1. Admission free. Collection.

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From page one

STOP THE H-TESTS

America agree to stop any further experiments with nuclear weapons.

The deadly strontium 90

In the USA two Columbia University scientists have reported on the damage being caused to mankind by the deadly, cancer-forming strontium 90, the most feared element in the fall-out from H-bomb tests.

Collecting 500 samples of fresh human bone from widely separated parts of the world, the Columbia men analysed them and concluded, according to a Time magazine report, that "at the present time strontium 90 can be found in all human beings regardless of age or geographic location . . ." The amount is not large, but in their small sample the researchers found a good deal of variation; in young children, three to four times as much as in adults.

But in one sample of an adult shinbone from Vancouver, BC, on the Pacific coast, there was 75 times more than the average.

It will be more than 20 years before the strontium from past tests has had its maximum impact and the Time magazine report concludes:

The permissible level

"The Columbia men are concerned about such individuals as the Vancouver man who have a lot more strontium 90 than the average, and about people who get most of their calcium from vegetables that were grown in calcium-deficient soil (plants growing in such soil absorb more strontium 90 than others).

"Such people may come much closer to the 'permissible' level. The permissible level itself is still considered debatable. It was derived principally from a small amount of experience with the cancer-causing effects of radium in the bones; at that time no strontium 90 existed in the world.

"When more is known the permissible level for strontium 90 may have to be lowered sharply."

MESSAGE FROM JAPAN

Miss Rhoda Clarke, the Brixham, Devon, Peace News reader who has refused to pay for her dog licence as a protest against the H-test has received a letter of "greeting and encouragement" from the Secretary of the Japanese Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, Mr. Kaoru Yasui.

Writing that the council have come to know of her "courageous protest," and that "80 million Japanese people are with the same mind as you toward the continued experiments," he continues:

"The Japanese Council against A and H-bombs, which has played its role as the national centre of a 34 million signature collecting campaign, is now launching a nation-wide campaign against the British experiments around Christmas Island.

"We heartily wish that we may go arm in arm with the British people keenly interested in world peace and the future of the human race."

Mr. Yasui enclosed with the letter a copy of an appeal from the Council to the people of Britain to combine with the people of Japan and "stand resolutely in the way of the experiment schedule."

"We have sent Mrs. Kuboyama (wife of the Japanese fisherman killed by the Bikini H-test), to the United Nations in order to work upon world public opinion."

PRESS WITCH HUNT IN CENTRAL AFRICA?

BASIL DELAINE

LUSAKA, NYASALAND, Feb. 19.

TO this country, already divided by racial discrimination, comes what Lusaka newspapermen regard as an even more vicious type of suppression—a Press witch-hunt.

The Central Office of Information in London have sent a circular to the Northern Rhodesia Information Office asking for a list of correspondents in the territory who are serving British newspapers.

An Information Officer at the Press Office here denied anything sinister in this request for particulars, and said that it was to give the COI a quick reference if an article on the Central African scene were needed.

But newspapermen reason if this is so, it is unnecessary to ask specifically for men who write for newspapers in Britain as there are journalists in the Federation with intimate knowledge of Central Africa, but who have no journalistic connections in Britain.

Questioned further the Northern Rhodesian spokesman observed that the COI Register of Overseas Correspondents would make it easy to refer to a newspaperman in the event of false or incorrect reporting.

One well known former Fleet Street journalist was given the cold shoulder when he asked the Information Office for more details of the COI circular.

He was told, "I am too busy to tell you now."

Observers here are speculating on the rumour that the Governor of Northern Rhodesia, Sir Arthur Benson, may resign soon. They recall that it is only a few weeks since his Information Office so clumsily handled the threats to his life.

Added to this is the fact that the COI request for a Correspondents Register follows the visit of Mr. Lennox-Boyd, whose activities attracted a considerable number of reports to London from Northern Rhodesia.

A LINE TEN MILES LONG

A line of Africans ten miles long—labourers, women with babies, young boys and old men are to be seen daily walking home from Johannesburg, reports the News Chronicle. Not a head turns as a bus goes rumbling by empty.

Despite the risks of assisting the Africans, many Europeans are offering lifts in their cars. Some Europeans make as many as six trips between Johannesburg and Alexandra township where most of the Africans live. The police are busy hamperring all this as best they can.

Incredible as it may seem, 60,000 Africans (latest figures), with a 156 of their supposed leaders under arrest, accused of treason, are continuing the bus boycott which shows every sign of spreading.

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WHAT MAKES MEN CRUEL?

The following letter from Thomas Fox Pitt, Secretary to the Anti Slavery Society, appeared in the Manchester Guardian on Monday. The Peace News article to which he refers is available, price 6d. post free, from Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., London, N.4.

MISS EILEEN FLETCHER, who has reported on the ill-treatment of Kikuyu detainees in Kenya, writes in "Peace News" (January 11):

"In one London meeting a woman asked whatever sort of schools people had been to who could do such things as has been reported during court cases in Kenya in which Europeans had been charged with atrocities against Africans during the last two years.

"Of course, I could not tell her, but strangely enough the very next night in the Midlands questions were asked about a young European officer who had been convicted of hanging Mau Mau suspects up with ropes round their necks, and placing lighted cigarettes in their ears, burning their ear drums to make them confess.

"In the audience were boys from a nearby public school who came to me after and said of course such things were accepted and it was only because I was a woman that I minded."

Is there something wrong with the education of boys in this country that it should be possible to use them for the policy of cruel suppression practised in Kenya? If our system of education produces cruel men what is there in it that can be altered?

Is it that brutalities practised by the masters or among the boys themselves "toughen" them and they accept cruelty as an inevitable part of life? Or does the "toughening" come later as part of Army life?

Tests mean starvation for aborigines

JAMES JOHNSON, MP (Lab. Rugby), asked the Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations in the Commons on January 31, whether he was aware that a large area of tribal hunting ground of aborigines in Western Australia has been denied them, because of British atomic testing at Maralinga.

This, he said, has caused near famine to some 1,000 of these people. He asked for the Government to make some financial aid to the Australian Government for the purpose of rehabilitating the tribe.

Mr. Alport, replying, said that there was no evidence that the establishment of a testing ground or of the Woomera Range for the testing of guided missiles had had any adverse effect on the aborigines. In particular, the Australian Minister of Supply had stated that the tribal grounds had not been denied to the natives because of the establishment of these test ranges.

Fenner Brockway, MP (Lab., Eton and Slough), referred to the Report of the Parliamentary Select Committee of the Western Australian Government, quoting the passage: "One thousand Aborigines are so beset by hunger and disease that they are living under the worst conditions in the world."

NOT BRITISH

Mr. Alport promised to send to both Mr. Brockway and Mr. Johnson a statement made by the Australian Minister of Supply, adding that the range in Australia was not a British testing-ground but that it was under the sovereignty of Australia. Therefore, he said, the problems therein must be dealt with by the Australian Government.

James Griffiths, MP (Lab., Llanelly), said: "Surely we accept the obligation that if, in the land inhabited by these native people, we cause damage or injury to them, we are under a moral obligation which we ought to accept?"

When Mr. Alport again removed responsibility from the British Government by saying: "These are citizens of the Commonwealth of Australia, and the Commonwealth of Australia Government are perfectly capable of looking after their interests," Mr. Brockway said that he would raise the matter on the Adjournment at the earliest possible opportunity.

"I HAD ORDERS"

SYBIL MORRISON

Out of the 1,959 people on board (the Lusitania), 1,198 lost their lives . . . it was the First World War event which was the primary cause of President Wilson throwing in his lot with the Allies. It also led to a coroner's jury bringing in a verdict against the submarine officers, Kaiser Wilhelm II and the German Government of "wilful and wholesale murder before the tribunal of the civilised world."
—Daily Telegraph. "Last Voyage of the *Lusitania*" (Longmans, 16s.).

UNTIL fifty years ago there was a curious kind of unspoken agreement that wars should be fought under a particular set of unwritten rules.

When British troops, under orders to do so, destroyed the Boer farmsteads in the Transvaal during the Boer War, there were many Liberals, and others in this country, who denounced this attack upon the innocent as contrary to the "rules of the game."

When in that war "dum-dum" bullets were first used, there was a tremendous outcry because a man wounded with one of these bullets must inevitably die; so great was the sense of outrage that anyone found using a dum-dum bullet was threatened with the death penalty.

As the years have passed, and the violence and counter-violence of the deeds of war have increased to the proportion of total destruction, the protests, strangely enough, have grown less, not more.

The sinking of the *Lusitania* was the first of a series of attacks on non-combatants; it was followed by the sinking of liners en route to India and the Far East in the Mediterranean, and the German argument that these ships carried war material as well as passengers, was never successfully refuted.

Nevertheless, it was, for many years, considered to be a brutally uncivilised act, outside the unwritten but strict laws of conduct in war.

The so-called civilised world condemned it, not as an act of war, not as a war crime, but as "wilful and wholesale murder."

The slaughter of a generation on the battlefields of France, the shelling of villages and farmhouses close to the front line, the sinking of warships with all their crews; these things were war; deliberate killing of non-combatants was murder.

At first gradually, and then with incredible swiftness, the deterioration of even these strange standards took place. Railway stations and factories became "military objectives," and soon open towns were "legitimate targets."

The Commander, Schweiger, who gave the order to torpedo the *Lusitania* stated that he had orders to do so. It is to be assumed that the RAF pilots who flew to carry out the "obliteration bombing" of Dresden, Hamburg and Cologne also had their orders.

The American pilot whose plane carried the first atom bomb; the gunner who released it over Hiroshima, causing loss of life ten times greater than the torpedo that sank the *Lusitania*, undoubtedly obeyed the orders of a higher command.

The whole inescapable dilemma of Nuremberg is here; to disobey orders in war, even from moral repugnance, is to commit treason, the extreme penalty for which is death. Can it possibly be held that the man who ordered the torpedo away is any more, or any less to blame than the man who launched it, or the Government who sanctioned it?

In war it is the business of Governments to do all in their power to achieve victory; the justification for the wholesale murder of the inhabitants of Cologne or Hiroshima was the absolute need for victory.

War may once have been, in spite of its violence and its futility, an affair in which trained and professional soldiers and sailors fought with each other according to a code of rules. Now, it is "wilful and wholesale murder," but there is no coroner's jury to bring in that verdict of complete and unequivocal condemnation.

"I had orders" is the justification for the indiscriminate slaughter of the innocents; those words may some day echo emptily and fruitlessly in the uninhabited wastes of a nuclear war aftermath.

Then it will be too late. It is now that those guilty of making war must face the verdict: "wilful and wholesale murder." These are hard words, but they are true.

The dilemma is there, and it cannot be solved, nor removed, by any means other than the renunciation of the method of war. The civilised world must stand arraigned until it has discarded its wicked weapons, and can stand up to judge and jury with the ringing answer: "Not guilty."

A PACIFIST TEACHER IN A SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOL

"THE Difficulties and Successes of a Pacifist Teacher in a Secondary Modern School" was the subject of a talk given recently by Alfred Willetts to the Peace Pledge Union's Education Commission.

Mr. Willetts impressed his hearers with his sincerity and staunchness to principle, the more so in that he felt difficulties out-numbered the successes and he by no means handed out ready-made answers to the questions put to him.

The Secondary Modern School comes in for much criticism and Mr. Willetts made a point worthy of close consideration when he said that the level of the school cannot rise above the level of the staff-room. Equally important was his remark that a sense of security must be established in the child's mind before any attempt can be made to teach.

Mr. Willetts said he found the class-room the most difficult place in which to be a pacifist. That he attains no small measure of success therein was evinced by the words he quoted of a small sea-cadet who, when pressed to reflect on the use of fixed bayonets, said: "Well, I couldn't kill a *man*."

Petitions signed by 4,000 persons in 30 states urging establishment of a new Commission on the Racial Situation in South Africa were recently presented to Henry Cabot Lodge, United States Ambassador to the United Nations. The presentation was made by Donald Harrington, Chairman of the American Committee on Africa; George Houser, the Committee's Executive Director; and A. C. Thompson, its representative.

Refugees: a permanent solution must be found

Abridged from a report by
FRIEDA BACON

WITH refugees arriving across the border daily, and the figures estimated at 170,000, Austria faces a grave Hungarian refugee problem. At present some 70,000 Hungarian refugees remain in Austria.

They do not know whether they will be going to Iceland or to South Africa or to some other land, or whether the weeks will drag by within the refugee camps.

They sit on straw mattresses in their temporary quarters, brooding and reflecting. They want to get away, far from the Russian bayonets; they want security and they believe that in "the golden West" prosperity is there for the taking.

For years they have been listening secretly to the broadcasts from the West; from one to another they passed the news of Radio Free Europe, of Eisenhower's promise: "We will not leave you in the lurch."

JEWISH PEOPLE

Tension mounts as some refugees leave for a country and others, who have waited longer, are left behind. Bad feeling is made by the exceptionally good care given to Jewish people by the various Jewish organisations.

Ninety-five per cent of the Jews in Vienna are living in hotels. They have money, thanks to the wealthy Jewish organisations abroad, and they can travel to cities and have personal interviews with emigration commissions, while the others, with the equivalent of 9s. 6d. per month pocket money, have to sit in the camps and wait.

It needs only one Communist agent smuggled into these camps to brew trouble, to foster hatred and soon anti-semitic leaflets appear and hotheads pull knives. This has already happened in Siezenheim.

Because of the new terror regime in Hungary, hope for an early return to normal in that country has died. It is, therefore, no use counting on the repatriation of a large number of the refugees.

It is clear that measures to meet the first urgent needs are no longer enough. Instead of improvisation, permanent solutions now have to be found.

Austria has to keep an ever-watchful eye on the infiltration of spies, rogues and swindlers. Along with the thousands of refugees have come Communist agents, criminal elements and outright adventure seekers.

In order to help sort the bad elements from the willing, work is being provided for the refugees. It is believed that work will deter those of the refugees who are not genuine.

WORK ROOMS

The Kleine Zeitung from which this report on the refugee situation is drawn states:

"The establishment of work rooms in the camps is an urgent necessity. To sit for weeks and months in a camp without the chance of work to take one's thought off one's troubles will demoralise the best character."

However, there may be strong opposition to the setting-up of such work rooms. In 1945 many attempts were made to start workshops in the camps of that period but Austrian industries soon showed that they would not tolerate competition.

The refugee problem has many aspects. "One thing is certain," states the Kleine Zeitung, "we must do all in our power to prevent ourselves and the outside world from becoming accustomed to the shock and horrors of the present situation. The individual tragedies we read of are only side-lights in a series of tragedies but they serve to shake us, here in the West, out of our peace and our deceptive security."

In last week's issue the report on "This H-test Insanity", the passage beginning: "By renouncing the tests . . . the Communist states . . .", should have read " . . . the Committee states".

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